System Requirements

Operating System: Windows 2000, XP, XP SP2, or Vista

CPU/ Speed: PIII (or equivalent) or better; 1 GHz or faster

RAM: 256 MB (512 MB for Vista)

Video Card: DirectX 7 compatible 3D video card

Controls: A keyboard and a 100% Microsoft compatible mouse

Sound: DirectX certified sound card

Video: Desktop set to 16-bit or 32-bit color (256 colors may not work)

Hard Drive: At least 60 MB of free space

This product has been rated by the Entertainment Software Rating Board. For information about the ESRB rating please visit www.esrb.org.

Installing the Game

To install *The Sims Carnival™ SnapCity*:

1. Close all open programs and background tasks, including virus scanners (see *Performance Tips* on p. 4 for more info).
2. Insert *The Sims Carnival SnapCity* disc into your CD/DVD-ROM drive. The Autorun menu appears.

Note: If the Autorun menu does not automatically appear, click the **Start** button from the Windows Taskbar and select **Run….** Type **D:\Autorun.exe** in the Run dialog box, then click OK (substitute the correct letter of your CD/DVD-ROM drive if other than 'D:').

3. Click the INSTALL button on the Autorun menu, then follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.

Starting the Game

To start *The Sims Carnival SnapCity* (with disc already in drive):

1. Close all open programs and background tasks, including virus scanners (see *Performance Tips* on p. 4 for more info).
2. Click the **Start** button from the Windows Taskbar and select **All Programs** (or **Programs**) **> Electronic Arts > The Sims Carnival SnapCity > The Sims Carnival SnapCity**.

Playing the Game

Welcome to *The Sims Carnival SnapCity*, where you develop and maintain the city of your dreams! The game features two modes. Put on your mayor's hat and play through 25 levels of increasing level objective difficulty in Story Mode, or create any city you like in Creativity Mode.

Keep these five basic goals in mind and you'll be well on your way to building your ideal metropolis.

1. Place falling blocks of the same color to form city zones.
2. Place roads to foster buildings to develop.
3. Place and solve puzzle zones to develop special buildings.
4. Keep buildings from decaying.
5. Fight disasters to keep your city safe.

Make sure you play the tutorial to learn about placing blocks, solving puzzle zones, and much more.

Zone Pieces & City Zone Types

There are three types of city zone pieces:

Green = Residential

Blue = Commercial

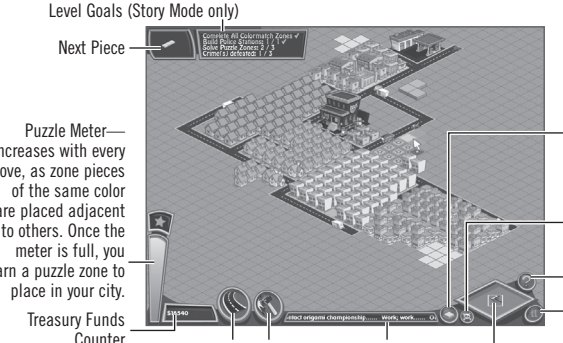
Yellow = Industrial

Each of these colors appears on different shaped zone pieces that fall from above. You need to place them on the game board to start building your city.

As a piece falls, move your cursor around to point where you would like it to land. The piece will land on its own eventually, but you can hold your left mouse button down or double-click it to place it more quickly.

You can also rotate pieces by right-clicking or pressing ALT.

Game Screen


Level Goals (Story Mode only)
Next Piece
Puzzle Meter—Increases with every move, as zone pieces of the same color are placed adjacent to others. Once the meter is full, you earn a puzzle zone to place in your city.
Treasury Funds Counter
Roadbuilder Button—Enter road building mode.
Bulldoze Button—Enter bulldozing mode.
Ticker Message Area—Get good advice on managing your city.
Flat Mode Button—See more easily where pieces are needed.
Start a Disaster-WARNING: Use at your own risk! (Creativity Mode only)
Building Info Tool
Pause Menu
Mini-map Area—Get a quick overview of your city, view alerts when disasters are occurring offscreen, or quickly navigate around the city area.

Zone Piece Movement & Placement

Move and Place Pieces Move the piece to where you want it and hold down the left mouse button or double-click.

Rotate Pieces Right-click or press [ALT].

Color Matching Place pieces of the same color next to each other to help build larger buildings.

Roads

Creating roads causes buildings to develop in zones.

1. Press the Roadbuilding button or press [R].
2. Left-click and drag your mouse where you want the road to be placed.
3. Press the Roadbuilding button, [R] again, or right-click to exit Roadbuilding mode.

Bulldozing

Bulldozing will help to fit a piece where needed and demolish unwanted buildings.

1. Press the Bulldoze button or press [B].
2. Left-click and drag where you want to bulldoze. WARNING: Bulldozing cannot be undone!
3. Press the Bulldoze button, [B] again, or right-click to exit Bulldozing mode.

City Treasury

Earn money by developing your city and growing your buildings. Roadbuilding, bulldozing, fighting disasters, and other city maintainence actions cost money.

Puzzle Zones

Fill these special zones in with pieces to develop special buildings:

Colored Zones Complete these with only pieces of the required color.

Wildcard Zones The first piece placed determines the required color.

Once a puzzle zone is completely filled in (it's ok if pieces run over the edge of the zone), you will be able to develop a special building in its place.

Disasters

Defeat disasters by holding down the left-mouse button over the disaster as it occurs. Some special buildings can increase your disaster fighting power. Fighting disasters costs money. Disasters include: Fire, Crime, Epidemic, Riot, Tornado, Earthquake, Nuclear Meltdown, and UFO.

Building Decay

Buildings can start to decay if roads are not placed close enough to them. Leaving buildings decayed for too long can lead to disasters occurring more often in your city. If a building messages that roads are needed, be sure to build one closer in a hurry. Another way to deal with a decayed building is to bulldoze it and start a new building in its place.

Game Options

Clicking the Options icon at the Main menu lets you view the Options screen. Here, you can change the volume of the background music and sound effects, change into full-screen game play mode, or deactivate play tips.

Saving and Loading

When you start the game for the first time, you are prompted to enter your name. This becomes your profile. Your progress is automatically saved to your profile and loaded the next time you start the game.

To switch profiles or start a new one, click the Player Profile icon on the Welcome box at the Main menu.

Performance Tips

System Requirements

It is essential that your PC meets the Minimum Requirements as detailed on the game's packaging. If you are experiencing poor performance, check to make sure your system hardware supports the requirements.

Background Tasks

In some cases programs that are running on your system can monopolize resources that the game needs in order to install, load, and run properly. Not all of these programs are immediately visible. There are a number of programs, called "background tasks," that are always running on your system.

Important Note: While shutting down background tasks will optimize your system for running *The Sims Carnival SnapCity,* these background tasks' features will be unavailable once shut down. Be sure to re-enable background tasks after playing *The Sims Carnival SnapCity* by restarting your computer.

If your system is running anti-virus or crash guard programs you will need to close or disable them to run *The Sims Carnival SnapCity*. To do this, find the icon for the program on the Windows Taskbar and then right-click the icon and select "close," "disable," or the relevant option. Please note that these programs will be reactivated the next time you restart your computer.

Once anti-virus and crash guard programs have been disabled, you should end all unnecessary general background tasks.

To view and close background tasks (Windows XP):

1. Hold down CONTROL and SHIFT and then tap ESC. Select the Windows Task Manager.
2. Click the **Processes** tab. This tab displays a list of all background tasks running on your system.
3. Click the **User Name** column heading. This sorts all the processes together by user name.
4. Select an item with a user name, but DO NOT select one from the SYSTEM, LOCAL SERVICE, or NETWORK SERVICE groups. Also, DO NOT select the *explorer.exe* or *taskmgr.exe* items.
5. Click END PROCESS. You may receive a warning message, if so click YES. The selected item disappears from the list.
6. Repeat steps 4 and 5 until only *explorer.exe* and *taskmgr.exe* remain in the user name group.

Video and Sound Drivers

An outdated video or sound driver can lead to slow and choppy gameplay, or in some cases can prevent the game from running at all. To ensure an enjoyable experience with *The Sims Carnival SnapCity,* be sure that you have the most recent video and sound drivers installed. These drivers are typically available for download from your system or hardware manufacturer's website. If you are not sure what type of video or sound card you have, or you don't know how to update the drivers on your system, please refer to the documentation that came with your system or peripheral.

Technical Support

If you have trouble with *The Sims Carnival SnapCity*, EA Technical Support can help. The *EA Help* file provides solutions and answers to the most common difficulties and questions about how to properly use this product.

To access the EA Help file (with *The Sims Carnival SnapCity* already installed):

Click the **Start** button from the Windows Taskbar and select **All Programs** (or **Programs**) **> Electronic Arts > The Sims Carnival SnapCity > Technical Support**.

To access the EA Help file (without *The Sims Carnival SnapCity* installed):

1. Insert *The Sims Carnival SnapCity* disc into your CD/DVD-ROM drive.
2. Double-click the My Computer icon on the Desktop. (For Windows XP, you may need to click the **Start** button and then click the My Computer icon).
3. Right-click the CD/DVD-ROM drive that has the *The Sims Carnival SnapCity* disc and then select OPEN.
4. Double-click the Support folder.
5. Double-click the EA Help folder.
6. Double-click the Electronic_Arts_Technical_Support.htm file in this folder.

If you are still experiencing difficulty after utilizing the information in the EA Help file you can contact EA Technical Support.

EA Technical Support on the Internet

If you have Internet access, be sure to check our EA Technical Support website at:

http://support.ea.com

Here you will find a wealth of information on DirectX, game controllers, modems, and networks, as well as information on regular system maintenance and performance. Our website contains up-to-date information on the most common difficulties, game-specific help, and frequently asked questions (FAQs). This is the same information our support technicians use to troubleshoot your performance issues. We keep the support website updated on a daily basis, so please check here first for no-wait solutions.

If you are unable to find the information you need on our website, please feel free to contact EA Technical Support via e-mail, phone, or letter. *Please be sure to include the EAsy Info report in your e-mail or letter.*

If you need to talk to someone immediately, call us at US 1 (650) 628-1001. *Please have the EAsy Info report printed and ready when you call.* This will help us service your call in the quickest possible time. This number is available Monday through Friday 8 AM – 5 PM PST. **No hints or codes are available from Technical Support.**

EA Technical Support Contact Info

Website: http://support.ea.com

Mailing Address: EA Technical Support
P.O. BOX 9025
Redwood City, CA 94063-9025

If you live outside of North America, you can contact one of our other offices.

In the **United Kingdom**, contact:

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Chertsey, KT16 OYL, UK
Phone (0870) 2432435
http://eauk.custhelp.com

In **Australia**, contact:

Electronic Arts Pty. Ltd.
PO Box 432
Southport Qld 4215, Australia

In **Australia:** For Technical Support and Game Hints & Tips, phone: 1 902 261 600 (95 cents per minute) CTS 7 days per week 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM. If you are under 18 years of age, parental consent required.

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You Played the Game. Now Play the Music.

EA Soundtracks and Ringtones Available at www.ea.com/eatrax/